

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANJUL 00358 111901Z

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 USIA-15 /028 W

-----111934Z 129178 /53

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FM AMEMBASSY BANJUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4144

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

UNCLAS BANJUL 0358

DEPARTMENT FOR AF/W KILLION

DEPARTMENT FOR CU/AF BANDLER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC OVIP GA SCUL

SUBJECT/ GOTG PROPOSES TO SEND CULTURAL DELEGATION TO US

REF: A) 76 BANJUL 1584

B) BANJUL 0040

1. AS FOLLOW-UP TO SUCCESSFUL JANUARY VISIT OF MINISTER SANYANG (REFTELS) GOTG PROPOSES TO SEND CULTURAL DELEGATION TO US FOR APPROXIMATELY THREE-WEEK VISIT. IN FURTHER EXPRESSION ROOTS INTEREST, DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO VISIT SEVERAL US UNIVERSITIES TO GIVE LECTURES, AND INCLUDE MEDIA APPEARANCES AS APPROPRIATE. GROUP WILL BE KNOWLEDGEABLE GAMBIAN ART, CULTURE, AND HISTORY, AND HOPE TO STIMULATE FURTHER AMERICAN INTEREST IN SAME.

2. CURRENT PLAN IS FOR CHARLES THOMAS (HARVARD GUADUATE, WHO ACCOMPANIED MINISTER) TO PROCEED TO NEW YORK TOWARD END OF MARCH AND ARRANGE FOR TOUR AND APPEARANCES OF OTHERS. REST OF GROUP WILL INCLUDE DR. LENRIE PETERS (AUTHOR, POET, MUSICIAN, AND ACCOMPLISHED SURGEON); MR. BAKARY SIDIBE (PROMINENT UNCLASSIFIED

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HISTORIAN AND ARCHIVIST, IV GRANTEE IN 1972, AND 1974); MR. SAM KINTEH (TEACHER IN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, HISTORIAN, MEMBER OF FAMOUS KINTEH FAMILY); AND THREE MUSICIAN/GRIOTS YET TO BE SELECTED. TOURISM ADVISOR MR. K. SINGH WILL COME WITH GROUP BUT WILL HAVE SEPARATE PROGRAM DEVOTED TO TOURISM PROMOTION. GROUP PLANS TO LEAVE FOR US IN EARLY TO MID-APRIL.

3. EMBASSY WILL SHORTLY BE PROPOSING DR. PETERS FOR IV GRANT, WHICH MIGHT BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH VISIT, OR COULD BE TAGGED TO END OF DELEGATION'S TOUR. DR. PETERS IS GAMBIA'S FOREMOST MAN OF LETTERS (THREE TITLES PUBLISHED IN UK PENGUIN SERIES ON AFRICAN WRITERS), AND HIS NOMINATION IS WARMLY SUPPORTED AT ALL LEVELS HERE, INCLUDING HIGHEST. DR. PETERS HAS TRAVELLED EXTENSIVELY IN EUROPE AND AFRICA, BUT HAS NEVER VISITED US.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S THOUGHTS RE VISIT, INCLUDING ANY FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE CU OR USIA MIGHT OFFER IN PLANNING MOST USEFUL PROGRAM FOR DELEGATION. WYGANT

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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